

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARA-16 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 DRC-01 /146 W

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R 141130Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7008

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BU

SUBJECT: BULGARIAN REACTION TO CHILEAN COUP

REF: SOFIA 1222

1. BCP ISSUED EXPECTED DECLARATION SEPT 13 CONDEMNING COUP IN CHILE, USING LANGUAGE WHICH CLOSELY PARALLELS SOVIET PARTY DECLARATION. NO DIRECT ACCUSATIONS MADE OF US INVOLVEMENT BUT STATEMENT NOTES THAT "INTERNAL FORCES OF REACTION AND THE IMPERIALIST MONOPLIES ASSOCIATED WITH THEM HAVE CHOSEN THE COURSE OF TERRORIST BUTCHERY AND FORCE AGAINST THE BEST SONS OF THE CHILEAN NATION". STATEMENT THEN GOES ON TO ACCUSE "FOREIGN CAPITAL" OF CONSPIRING WITH CHILEAN RIGHT-WING TO SABOTAGE RESULTS OF ALLENDE RULE OVER PAST THREE YEARS.

2. BCP DECLARATION QUICKLY FOLLOWED BY SIMILAR STATEMENTS FROM MASS ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING FATHER- LAND FRONT, DIMITROV KOMSOMOL, TRADE UNIONS AND

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LAWYERS ASSOCIATION. ALL REFER IN PASSING TO "MONO-

POLY CAPITALISM" WHICH HELPED TO BRING DOWN ALLENDE GOVERNMENT IN VIOLATION CHILEAN LAW AND HUMAN JUSTICE".

3. ALL CENTRAL DAILIES CARRYING NEWS REPORTS BASED IN LARGE MEASURE ON WESTERN NEWS AGENCIES AND, BY AN LARGE, ARE PROVIDING STRAIGHT NEWS. ONE EXCEPTION IS ACCUSATION MADE IN PAPERS SEPT 14 THAT ALLENDE MURDERED AND DID NOT COMMIT SUICIDE AS CLAIMED BY JUNTA.

4. MEDIA COMMENTARY HAS BEEN MEAGRE, BUT CAN BE EXPECTED TO INCREASE AS PARTY LINE FIRMS UP. EDITORIAL IN TRUD SEPT 14 CONTAINS SENTENCE, "IS NOT PRESENCE OF US WARSHIPS OFF THE CHILEAN COAST AT THIS PARTICULAR MOMENT A RATHER STRANGE COINCIDENCE"? THIS STATEMENT IS STRONGEST IMPLICATION OF US INVOLVEMENT IN BULGAR PRESS AND, ODDLY, ONLY INSTANCE WE AWARE OF REPORTING JOINT CHILEAN-US NAVAL EXERCISE WHICH WE COULD EXPECT TO BE PEG ON WHICH TO HANG US.

5. COMMENT: BULGARIAN PARTY AND GOVT REACTION IS ABOUT WHAT WE WOULD EXPECT. RELIANCE ON WESTERN SOURCES AND GENERALLY CIRCUMSPECT APPROACH WILL PROBABLY CONTINUE UNTIL LINE FROM MOSCOW BECOMES CLEARER. WE WOULD NOT EXPECT BULGARS TO GO BEYOND SOVIET POSITION AND IF PAST PRACTICE IS RELIABLE GUIDE, NEXT STEP WILL BE EFFORT TO DRUM UP PUBLIC SUPPORT THROUGH MASS MEETINGS, WORKERS PROTEST, ETC.
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